

# Transition Time

## Moving to Year 3



### Starting Year 3 (Junior School, Key Stage 2)

Starting a new school is a big step for both parents/carers and children. It involves a new location and potentially an unfamiliar journey. This leaflet guides you in planning your new school journey to keep it active, safe, and sustainable where possible.

1 in 5 cars on the road during morning rush hour is on the school run.

The County Council's [Travel Planning Team](#) is here to help you embrace active travel to school! It's good for the environment and your family's wellbeing. Find information and ideas on the following pages of this leaflet or visit the [My Journey Transition Time](#) and [My Journey Parent](#) pages. Let's make a positive change together!



#### Getting to know the basics

Once you have your child's school place confirmed, it's time to find out key information such as:

- **School start and finish times.**
- **Breakfast and after school club timings and availability.**
- **Travel to school policies/webpage-** many schools have a 'Travel to school' policy and/or webpages outlining how they would like families to travel to and from the site. This may include information about Park and Stride sites or 5-Minute Walking Bubbles (more information on this later).
- **Pedestrian entrances-** check the locations of the pedestrian entrances and whether you should be using a particular one (this may depend on your child's age).
- **Cycle and scooter storage-** if you wish your child to scoot or cycle to school, ensure you know the availability and location of scooter and cycle parking, and whether there are any policies in place or restrictions on use.
- **HCC Home to School Transport-** is available to eligible pupils. Please look [here](#) for more information.

*Please note: this service is provided and organised by the Education and Learning Team, and not by the Travel Planning Team.*



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In the section below are some suggested activities that you can do with your child to help you/them prepare for the new journey.

### Film fun with Roman legend Vitruvius



This [8-minute, historical and hysterical film](#) by our fantastic friends at [Histrionics](#) is designed to help you and your child start thinking about planning your new route to school.

Based around the true story of Vitruvius, a Roman author, architect and engineer who lived during the 1st century BC, you will pick up lots of hints and tips about planning your journey, travelling sustainably and keeping the environment clean, as well as yourself fit and healthy.

### Follow-up activities

#### 1. Mapping investigation

Help your child find you're their new school on a local map or use the [My Journey mapping tool](#) (Google Maps) or [OpenStreetMap](#) online. Check the distance to the new school. Plan a quiet route, avoiding busy roads and choosing safe crossing points. Remember, the quickest route may not always be the best in terms of traffic, pollution, and enjoyment!

Then use the yellow man icon on Google Maps to view street images and identify hazards before trying the route. Both tools allow you to select your preferred mode of transportation (walking, wheeling, cycling). Right-click on OpenStreetMap or use the blue and white directions icon on Google Maps to look for quieter routes with less traffic and better air quality. If the distance permits, consider walking, wheeling, scooting, or cycling to school on some days.



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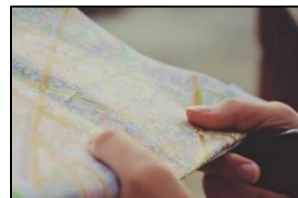
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### 2. Map making

Once you have decided the best option for your new route to school, you could help your child to create their own map on a piece of paper or card. If you've never drawn a map before, there are some good ideas to practice on the [Teaching Ideas](#) website.



As if looking from above (bird's eye or plan view), mark on your house and your new school and then draw the roads or footpaths you need to use. Can you add a key with some icons to note anything exciting to be found on the route such as a friend's house or a playground? What about any hazards to avoid like a busy road or narrow pavement? The more detail you add, the better your map.

### 3. Marching Orders

Once you are happy with your map, you could encourage your child to get into their best Roman centurion's outfit and then put your map created to the test. Try out more than one route to see if you have a preference. Is one better for walking, wheeling or scooting and one better for cycling? Having tested your route make any changes needed to your map. Remember to consider other factors such as whether the path may be muddy at times or the presence of streetlights for visibility on darker evenings.



Please do share photos from your route testing with us tagging **#KeepActiveHants**

### Other Transition Resources

#### Online travel choices guide

["How could you travel to school?"](#) is an annual booklet for parents and carers, offering information and tools to explore transportation options for their children starting school. It helps parents discover alternatives to car travel, even if it's just a few times a week. Your school will provide a copy to all new students, but it's helpful to review the online version beforehand for your travel planning.



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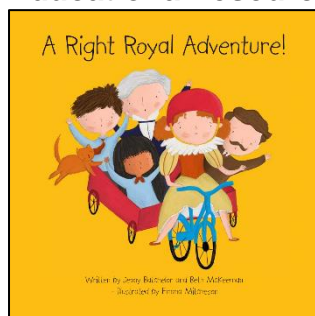
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We encourage active travel to school by walking, wheeling, scooting, or biking as much as possible. If it's raining, come prepared with waterproofs and enjoy a fun-filled journey. We understand that some families may need to use a car for part of the journey. If that's the case, please consider the following options:

- **Park and Stride/5-Minute Walking Bubble-** If you need to drive, park a short distance away from the school entrance and walk the last 5-10 minutes. This can make a big difference. Some schools provide Park and Stride maps with designated parking areas, like pub or supermarket car parks, where parents/carers can park during the school run. Others may have 5-Minute Walking Bubble Maps, indicating areas with ample on-street parking. Remember to Parkwise and be considerate of local residents. See: [Hampshire Parkwise Promise | My Journey Hampshire](#) for further details on the Parkwise scheme.
- **Scoot from the Boot-** To speed up the walk from the car to school, why not bring your child's scooter?
- **Park on my Drive-** If a school friend lives near your school and has available space on their drive, ask if you can park there and walk in together. It creates a friendly and sociable way to begin your day.

### Educational resources



[Susie the Childminder](#) books are available on-line. They prepare children for emergency situations in the home and community. In particular, we would recommend [Journey to School](#) and [Travelling Back in Time to School](#).

Download [Air Quality resources](#) and on-line versions of our Air Quality books, [A Wild Walk to school](#) (KS1) and [A Right Royal Adventure](#) (KS2). There's an [air pollution quiz](#) for parents too.



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### Information on safe, active travel

We have lots of information to support all forms of active travel on the [My Journey](#) website. Don't forget to check out our [scooting](#) and [cycling skills](#) pages to keep your child safe, savvy and to help ditch those stabilisers.

### Walking for your wellbeing



See our [wellbeing pages](#) for the latest ideas on keeping active and healthy, in body and mind.

We have lots of ideas to make your time outside more interesting and fun such as our [Spring into Action](#) toolkit and our [Primary Wellbeing](#) fliers.



### Further information and resources can be found here:

- HCC's Road Safety Team have a great website with information including the [Junior Road Safety Officer](#) scheme and the correct use of [car seats](#).
- Living Streets, our walking partner, have a great [family walk to school kit](#).
- Sustrans, our cycling partner, have some [great tips](#) on cycling and walking with young children as well as specific information on an [active school run](#). Read their [interesting report](#) on the benefits of cycling for children and families.
- Ready Set Ride has a [great website](#) (and app) to support parents in teaching their children to ride a bike.
- The Department of Transport's [Think!](#) website has excellent resources for 7–12-year-olds including activities around road safety and independence as a pedestrian.
- Road safety charity Brake has [free Zebras road safety resources](#) and lots of advice for [parents](#). They also promote [Road Safety Week](#) annually.
- If you cross railway lines on the way to school, you may be interested in these primary [safety resources](#) from Network Rail.



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